THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Eco-tourism

†1715. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the concept of Eco-tourism;

(b) the details of the schemes meant for development of eco-tourism in Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal and Uttar Pradesh, State-wise;

(c) whether all the above three State Governments have sent their schemes regarding development of eco-tourism in their respective States to the Central Government for approval; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when the said schemes are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The National Eco-Tourism Policy and Guidelines has already been laid down by Ministry of Tourism which aim to preserve, retain and enrich natural resources and to ensure regulated growth of Eco-Tourism with its positive impacts on environmental protection and community development.

(b) The Ministry of Tourism extends Central financial assistance to the State Governments/Union Territories for development of tourism including Eco-Tourism. These projects are sanctioned under the "Destination Development" and "Integrated Development of Tourism Circuit" schemes and details of the schemes approved during 10th Five Year Plan are placed in the Statement. (See below)

(c) and (d) The projects prioritized for the year 2005-06 are as under:

Himachal Pradesh	
Destination:	1. Shimla/Tohnoo/Changsil
Circuits:	1. Mandi Circuit
	2. Chamba Circuit

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Uttaranchal	
Destination:	IKedarnath; 2. Gangotri
Circuits:	1. Nainital-Almora-Ranikhet 2. Hemkund-Gangariya-Govind Ghat (Valley of Flowers)

Uttar Pradesh	
Destination:	1. Development of Varanasi 2. Development of Agra 3. Bio-Diversity of Chambal and Yamuna Area 4. Development of Rae Bareli 5. Development of Pratapgarh (Ghuisarnath Dham)
Circuits:	1. Vindhya Circuit-Mirzapur-Chunar-Robertsganj 2. Lucknow-Dudhwa-Katamiaghat

The above projects have components relating to Eco-Tourism and same will be sanctioned subject to the sending of Detailed Project Report by the State Governments and availability of funds.

Statement

State-wise details of the schemes approved for the development of eco-tourism

(Rs. in lakh)

SI. No	Name of Project sanctioned to the State of Himachal Pradesh during the last three years	Amount Sanctioned
	2002-03	
1.	Renovation of ancient Temple at Dada Siba (Distt. Kangra)	7.81
2.	Integrated Development of Chandigarh-Kullu-Manali-Lahaul/Spiti-Leh Tourism Circuit	723.06
	2003-04	
1.	Rural Tourism at Paragpur	50.00
2.	Extension of Tourist Adventure Lodge at Mountaineering Institute, Manali	67.32
3.	Development of Naggar Village (Distt. Kullu) under UNDP Endogenous Rural Tourism Project	50.00

SI. No	Name of Project sanctioned to the State of Himachal Pradesh during the last three years	Amount Sanctioned
	2004-05	
1.	Restoration & Revitalization of Heritage Hotel Castle Naggar (Distt. Kullu) and Palace Hotel Chail (Distt. Chail)	500.00
2.	Integrated Development of Tourist Circuit, Shimla	800.00
3.	Development of Kangra Circuit	800.00
4.	Development of Sirmour as Tourist Destination	500.00
5.	Upgradation of Website, production of CD-ROMS and VCDs	20.00
6.	GOI-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project at village Naggar in Kullu Distt.	20.00
7.	Tourist Reception Centre near Chauri Bihal Manali	24.00
	Name of Project sanctioned to the State of Uttaranchal during the last three years	
	2002-03	
1.	Rural Tourism Project at Jageshwar	50.00
2	Development of Haridwar-Rishikesh as a Tourist Destination:—	
	(i) Development of Green Great Vista for Haridwar— Rs. 403.00 lakh	557.50
	(ii) Landscaping and parking development along Grang River at Rishikesh— Rs. 154.50 lakh	
3.	Artist Camp at Dehradun	5.00
	2003-04	
1.	Mounting of SEL at Haridwar on the Bank of the Ganges	192.00
2.	Upgradation of existing Tourist Rest House at Pipalkoti	21.14
3.	Virasat Festival	15.00
4.	Kumaon Festival 2002	2.30
	TOTAL:	230.44
	2004-05	
1.	Development of Dayara Bugyal under Tourist Circuit	536.36
2.	Development of Pithoragarh-Munsiyari-Berinag in Kumaon under destination development	418.60
3.	Development Pauri-Khirshu-Lahsdowne under destination development	457.93
4.	Integrated Development of Badrinath Dham Travel Circuit	702.09

SI. No	Name of Project sanctioned to the State of Himachal Pradesh during the last three years	Amount Sanctioned
5.	Tourism Networking with INTERNET through WAN	50.00
6.	(Wide Area Network) in 30 Tourist Rest Houses and 10 regional Offices	20.00
7.	GOI-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project at village Mana Chamoli Distt. Virasat Festival	15.00

Name of Project sanctioned to the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years

	2002-03	
	Integrated Development of Vaishali-Naianda-Rajgir-Bodhgaya-Varanasi Circuit: Development works at Dharmachakra Pravattan Udyan at Sarnath, Development of Varanasi; Rajendra Ghat and Dashashmegh Ghat at Varanasi; Landscaping around Chaukhandi Satupa at Sarnath, Varanasi; Signages	196.00
	2003-04	
1.	Construction of Interpretation Centre/Shopping Centre and related development works and services at Fatehpur Sikri (CPWD)	495.80
2.	Celebration of Ramayan Mela at Chitrakut in March 2004	2.50
3.	Celebration of Ganga Festival at Varanasi, 2003	2.50
4.	Development/Beautification of Ram-ki Paidi in Ayodhya (Distt. Faizabad) (CPWD)	98.18
5.	(i) Beautification of Pucca Talab, at Etawah—Rs. 102.49 lakhs (ii) Beautification/expansion of Tourist Complex near Sumer Singh Fort at Etawah—Rs. 61.55 lakhs (State Govt.)	164.04
6.	Installation of Sound and Light Show at Sarnath (ITDC)	352.00
	2004-05	
1.	Development (I) Ma Shakumbhari Devi Temple (2) Baba Haridas Mandir (3) Qutabe Alam Dargah at Gangoh in Shahranpur Distt. Under scheme for Dev. of rural Tourism Under destination development	49.28
2.	Renovation of Radha Kund and Shyam Kund in Mathura Distt, under destination development	145.35
3.	Setting up of Modern Reception Centre at Gorakhpur under destination development	245.66
4.	Renovation/Beautification of Kusum Sarovar at Govardhan (Distt. Mathura) under destination development	100.77

SI. N	Name of Project sanctioned to the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years	Amount Sanctioned
S.	Extension and development of Assi Ghat at Varanasi under destination development	464.78
6.	Floodlighting of Mahatma Gandhi Statue at Hazrat Ganj and Vijay Stambh at La Martiniere College at Lucknow under destination development	11.84
7.	Ganga Festival, 2004 at Varanasi	2.50
8.	Holi Festival, 2005 at Barsana (Distt. Mathura)	5.00
9.	GOI-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project at Village Bhaguwala in Saharanpur Distt.	19.75

Celebration of 350 years of Taj Mahal

†1716. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made a plan to organize special programmes on the occasion of completion of 350 years of Taj Mahal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of proposals under consideration of the Central Government sent by State Government in this regard; and

(d) by when the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI
RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Tourism promotional campaign was launched to celebrate 350 years of the Taj Mahal. The components of the campaign includes:

(i) Release of advertisement in domestic print and electronic media.

(ii) Production of collateral on Taj theme for distribution in India and overseas.

(iii) Organised cultural programmes at Fatehpur Sikri.

(iv) Release of special commemorative stamp on the Taj Mahal.

(c) The proposals submit by Government of Uttar Pradesh were not as per the stipulated guidelines and were not approved.

(d) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.